

Stated Meeting, December 18, 1891.

Present, 15 members.

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Correspondence was submitted as follows :

Letters of envoy were received from the Académie des Sciences, Cracow ; K. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien ; Schlesische Gesellschaft für Vaterländische Cultur, Breslau ; K. Sächsische Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften, Leipzig ; Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, Ottawa.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Tashkent Observatory (135) ; Societas pro Fauna et Flora Fennica, Helsingfors, Finland (135) ; K. Zoologisch-Botanisch Genootschap, The Hague (135) ; R. Netherland Museum of Antiquities, Leiden (135) ; K. P. Meteorologische Institut, Berlin (135) ; Naturhistorische Verein, Bonn (134) ; Turin Observatory, Académie Royale des Sciences, Turin (135) ; Prof. William Boyd Dawkins, Manchester, Eng.

Accessions to the Library were reported from the Mining Department, Melbourne, N. Z. ; Geological Survey of India ; K. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien ; Académie des Sciences, Cracow ; Botanische Verein der Provinz Brandenburg, Berlin ; Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Freiburg, i.B. ; Verein für Kunst und Alterthum, Ulm ; Accademia R. delle Scienze, Turin ; Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Me. ; Agricultural Experiment Stations at Amherst, Mass., Providence, R. I., New Haven, Conn., State College, Pa., College Park, Md., Fayetteville, Ark., Lafayette, Ind., Starkville, Miss., Topeka, Kas., Lincoln, Neb., Laramie, Wyo., Tucson, Ariz. ; Free Public Library, Jersey City ; New Jersey Natural History Society, Trenton ; Mr. Henry Phillips, Philadelphia ; Director of the Mint, Commissioner of Labor, Washington, D. C.

The death of Dom Pedro d'Alcantara, December 4, 1891 (born December 2, 1825), was announced.

The Secretaries presented for the Proceedings a paper by Dr. A. S. Gatschet, entitled, "A Mythic Tale of Isleta," New Mexico.

New nomination, No. 1232, was read for the first time.

The Library Committee presented the following minute:

STATED MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1891.

On motion of Dr. Greene, the Committee was authorized to report to the Society that in its opinion it was desirable that an appropriation of five hundred dollars should now be made for the purchase of books of reference.

After examining into the condition of the Library, the Committee was of the opinion that the work necessary to place the Library again in order, after its removal and storage, had been satisfactorily performed and was progressing properly. That the work necessary in that connection to be properly performed requires both time and care. That some delay had been occasioned by the necessity of giving greater accommodation for certain classes of the books than had been originally assigned to them.

So much of the communication as related to an appropriation of money was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Curator Morris made a statement referring to the condition of the cabinets of the Society and exhibited a number of objects, including a pantograph belonging to Thomas Jefferson. In conclusion he requested an appropriation of \$300 for the ensuing year to enable the Curators to rehabilitate the collection.

On motion, the request was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The President reported that owing to the indisposition of the Treasurer, the Finance Committee had not been able to audit the accounts and to report appropriations for the coming year, but that they would be presented at the ensuing meeting.

Curator Morris moved that the Society request the return of the Poinsett collection from the Academy of Natural Sciences, where it is now on deposit, subject to call, and of the numismatic collection from the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia.

The matter was discussed, and Dr. Cope raised the point of

order that the Society had fixed 8.30 this evening for the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Publications of the Society and that the time had passed.

He therefore requested the report should be taken up and considered.

Curator Morris then withdrew his motion.

The report referred to was then presented by Dr. Cope.

The President stated that he had received a letter from the Treasurer on the subject of the finances of the Society, and asked the pleasure of the Society if it should be read.

Dr. Frazer moved that the letter of the Treasurer be read after the debate had taken place.

Dr. Morris rose to a point of order that no report had been presented to the Society or received by it; that before resolutions be considered there should be a report before the Society.

The President stated his impression as to how the matter stood.

Dr. Morris calls for the reading of the report and asks for the information the Committee was instructed to report.

Dr. Cope states that he read to the Society the original report some months ago, since which time amendments have been made to it.

Mr. Dudley stated that in the absence of the Treasurer matters relating to the finances of the Society should not be pressed to a conclusion, and moved that the whole matter be laid over until the next meeting and be made a special order.

Dr. Frazer objects that the motion is not in order.

The President decided, no point of order could be taken pending the motion to postpone.

The vote being taken was decided in the negative, and the yeas and nays being called for, the vote stood for the motion, 4; against, 8. So the motion was lost.

Dr. Morris then called for the reading of the report of the Committee.

Dr. Cope states that the report he makes is the report of the Committee.

Dr. Morris asks if the report is in writing.

The President states all reports must be in writing.

Dr. Morris moves that the report be referred back to the Committee to report to the Society at the second meeting in January, 1892.

The President states that there is no continuous report, no full text, and that the matter as presented by the Chairman was disjointed and likely to lead to misapprehension. That a portion of the resolutions was out of order as affecting the laws of the Society.

Dr. Barker made some remarks.

The question being put on Dr. Morris' motion, the resolution was adopted.

And the Society was adjourned by the President.